

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CAPITOL HILL WELCOMES LEGISLATORS FROM TAIWAN

HON. ROBERT SMITH

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome a distinguished legislators' delegation from the Republic of China on Taiwan. The legislators represent all major political parties in Taiwan: The ruling Nationalist Party, the Democratic Progressive Party, the New Party, and non-aligned parties. Members all democratically elected by the electorate, this delegation fully demonstrates how democracy has worked in the Republic of China on Taiwan. In ten years' time, Taiwan has evolved from a one-party state to multi-political parties of different ideologies. The growth of elective politics has been very healthy for Taiwan. Ambassador Stephen Chen tells me that there will be major elections this coming December: mayoral elections, legislative yuan (Parliament) elections and municipal elections. There is no doubt in my mind that Taiwan politics is vigorous and vibrant. Once again, Taiwan is setting a good example of elective democracy for other developing nations, especially China.

On the eve of President Clinton's visit to the People's Republic of China, I wish to say that while the P.R.C. is vital to U.S. interests, it is equally important that we not ignore the interests of our ally and trading partner: The Republic of China on Taiwan. For years and years, Taiwan has been buying American agricultural products worth billions of dollars and cooperating with us on all major issues affecting our two countries.

I therefore share the many concerns of our Taiwan friends who are visiting us here on the Hill today. Let us abide by the Taiwan Relations Act and continue our arms sales to Taiwan. It is also my hope that both Taiwan and the People's Republic of China will work toward eventual reunification when both sides reach similar levels of freedom and democracy. In the meantime, both sides should dialogue on all issues as equal partners. Moreover, the P.R.C. should declare that it will not use force against Taiwan now or in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my warmest welcome to this very distinguished group of legislators from Taiwan. I wish them every success during their short visit to Capitol Hill.

A TRIBUTE TO JANE SMITH

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work and outstanding service of Mrs. Jane Smith of Yucaipa, California. Jane, the Associ-

ate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction at the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools Office in San Bernardino, is moving to Colorado shortly to pursue a wonderful professional opportunity with the Weld County District 6 School District.

Jane graduated from the University of California, Davis with a Bachelor of Arts in English in 1968. Ten years later, she completed her Master of Arts in Education with a special emphasis on reading. She began her professional educational career as an English teacher with the Vallejo City Unified School District in 1968, and later, with the Fontana Unified School District in 1979. She served as a Reading Resource Specialist with the Fontana Unified School District from 1980-83 and a District Resource Teacher from 1983-1985.

In 1985, Jane became Assistant Principal at Fontana Junior High School. One year later, she became Director of Staff Development for the Fontana Unified School District where she served until November, 1989. At that time, she became Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services where she served until July, 1993. She then worked as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction until 1995 when she took on her present assignment as Associate Superintendent with the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools Office.

Over the years, Jane has been widely recognized for her outstanding contributions in the field of education. Among other awards she has received the California School Leadership Academy Regional Merit Award and the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Redlands Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa. In addition, she has spoken at a number of educational conferences across the country, served in numerous professional development capacities, and had numerous articles published in educational journals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and our colleagues in recognizing Jane Smith as she concludes this chapter and begins another. To say the least, her fine work with the San Bernardino County School District will be greatly missed. Over the years, she has made a tremendous difference in the lives of countless students. I'd like to join County Superintendent, Barry Pulliam, and others in wishing Jane and her family the very best in their future endeavors.

A WELCOME TO ARMEN
MELKONIAN, CONSUL GENERAL
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Armen Melkonian, Consul General of the Republic of Armenia, to the 19th Congressional District of California. The Central Valley holds a large portion of the Ar-

menian community in America and is rich in Armenian culture and history. Thus Consul General Melkonian's leadership in Armenia has provided a great deal of inspiration to the Armenians in the Central Valley.

Armen Melkonian was born in Yerevan, Armenia in 1958. He is married to Yevkenya Melkonian and has two children, Ashod and Ani. Armen Melkonian graduated from Yerevan State University, Faculty of Near Eastern Studies Arabic Division in 1980. Armen received his Ph.D. in the Eastern Studies Institute of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia.

From 1982-1984 Armen Melkonian served as an Arabic language translator in South Yemen. He served as a Soviet Army Lieutenant from 1986 to 1988. Following his commitment as a Lieutenant, he lectured in the Eastern Studies Institute of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia in the division of Arab countries. Armen lectured as part of the Eastern Studies of Yerevan State University in the beginning of 1991. He served as an aid to the President of the Republic of Armenia from 1992-1994. At the beginning of 1994, he was in the foreign ministry of the Republic of Armenia. Being the first secretary of Arab countries division, led him to becoming the ambassador in Cairo, Egypt from 1994-1997. From 1997-1998 he was the administrator for the foreign ministry's Middle Eastern countries division of the Republic of Armenia. Currently he is the Consul General of the Republic of Armenia in Los Angeles.

Armen Melkonian is the author of numerous articles in scholarly journals and various publications. He has participated in various symposiums all over the world. In 1990, his paper "Armenian Medieval Resources about Arab Caliphates" earned him a degree in Historical Sciences.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I welcome Armen Melkonian to the 19th Congressional District of California. His leadership has been an inspiration to the Armenian community. I ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming Armen Melkonian to the United States and to the 19th Congressional District of California.

AN INTERNATIONAL SPOTLIGHT ON CHIAPAS

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I commend to my colleagues' attention the attached statement by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Honorable Mary Robinson. The situation in Chiapas, Mexico is only getting worse, and Mrs. Robinson is right to call our attention to the brutal situation in southern Mexico. It is high time that all sides in that festering conflict renounce violence and dedicate themselves to a peaceful resolution of that conflict.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.